

APPLICATION
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
BANKRUPTCY DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM PANEL

Name: Nancy F. Lesser

Office Address: Pax ADR, 1828 L Street, NW 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20036

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Office Phone: (202) 775-8100 Office Fax: (202) 318-0203

Education: B.A. City University of New York, 1975

J.D. Georgetown University 1981

M.A. Urban and Environmental Planning, University of Va.

Professional licenses or memberships and accreditations:

Member of the bars of District of Columbia and New York and
various federal court bars around the country, including D.Md.

Dispute Resolution Training: Yes X No _____

(a) U.S. Bankruptcy Court Training _____

(b) Other Training District Court for the District of Columbia, 1994

Experience: I am a full time mediator and arbitrator. Prior to beginning my full time ADR practice in 2002,
I was with the law firm of Williams & Connolly for 18 years, specializing in commercial litigation. I have been a certified
mediator on the District Court of the District of Columbia Mediation Panel since 1994, and have handled a wide variety of commercial cases for the Court and in
my private practice. I am an adjunct professor teaching Alternative Dispute Resolution at the Georgetown University Law Center.

Counties in which you are willing to serve as a Resolution Advocate:

Montgomery, Prince Georges, Baltimore

If you are also applying to be a Paid Resolution Advocate, rates charged:

Additional Information: References supplied upon request.

I hereby certify that the information set-forth above is true and correct.¹ I agree to serve for a minimum of one year and to act as an unpaid Resolution Advocate in matters, not to exceed one matter per calendar quarter.

1/5/04

Date

Signature

Mary F. Leavelle

¹ It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit an amended application if any information contained on this application changes.



Nancy Lesser is the principal of **PAX ADR LLC**, an alternative dispute resolution firm headquartered in Washington, D.C. A former litigation partner with the distinguished law firm of **Williams & Connolly**, Ms. Lesser has spent more than two decades negotiating, mediating, and arbitrating complex commercial cases for companies such as America Online, Merrill Lynch, Smith Barney, UBS PaineWebber, Verizon, AT&T, Qwest Communications, Entergy Corporation, Commonwealth Lloyds Insurance Company, AIG, Lumbermen's Mutual Casualty Company, and LaFarge North America.

Ms. Lesser also served as **Senior Counsel to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development**, developing expertise in government processes and decision-making, invaluable experience when a dispute involves government regulatory action. She has mediated successfully with the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the District of Columbia, and the City of New Orleans.

Ms. Lesser's distinguished career includes:

- resolving a nationwide \$174 million dollar employee class action against the federal government that had been pending for twenty years. The settlement involved one of the largest back-pay awards ever made to federal employees by the United States. Prior to Ms. Lesser's involvement, the parties had spent more than three years unsuccessfully attempting to negotiate a settlement.
- mediating with over twenty parties and a dozen insurance carriers to settle a multi-million dollar insurance construction dispute with a metropolitan transit system. Before Ms. Lesser successfully resolved the case, the parties' prior mediation efforts had not only failed, but had resulted in the parties bringing additional claims against each other.

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- negotiating a settlement between a major U.S. city and its utility company over a \$41 million-dollar claim of billing overcharges. Rather than refereeing an unproductive debate over the case's dollar value, Ms. Lesser developed a mutually acceptable *process* for resolving the dispute by helping the parties establish standards for an independent audit of the bills.

A trained and certified mediator since 1994, Ms. Lesser works privately with corporate, government, and individual clients. She also serves as an arbitrator, and conducts independent fact-finding and internal investigations. Her clients often face complex, business-critical issues, ranging from government and private contract disputes, securities class actions and shareholder suits, insurance coverage issues, workplace disputes, professional liability claims, and intellectual property claims. They turn to *alternative dispute resolution* as a highly efficient process for resolving disputes that otherwise would involve the enormous expense, and hundreds of senior management hours, demanded by typical litigation.

Ms. Lesser is a member of the commercial mediation and arbitration panels for the American Arbitration Association and the National Arbitration Forum. She is a mediator for the National Association of Securities Dealers. She is also a certified mediator for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Ms. Lesser has been retained by the U.S. Department of Justice to serve as a Mediation Trainer for its staff attorneys. She is an adjunct professor of alternative dispute resolution at the Georgetown University Law Center.